(c).the target for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Report of National Institute of Rural Development

3507. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the study report published by the National Institute of Rural Development that despit a decline in the rate of rural poverty in percentage terms there is no change in the volume of rural poverty in real terms;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) It has been reported in "India Rural Development Report— 1999" published by the National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) that despite declining trend, the total number of poor in the country has remained more or less static. This is because of higher population growth rate. Details of State-wise poverty ratio are given at statement—I and the total number of people below poverty line (in absolute terms) is indicated at statement-II respectively *{see* below)

(c) As a measure of remedial steps towards alleviation of poverty, the Government have already started various programmes. Some of the progammes
as are follows:—

(i) Restructure self-employment programmes—Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana;

(ii) Employment Assurance Scheme; (iii)

Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana; (iv) Prime

Minister's Gramodaya Scheme;

(v) National Social Assistance Programme, etc.

Statement—I

State-wise percentage of population below the poverty line (Modified Expert Group)

No	State	1973-74	1997-78	1983	1987-88	1993-94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48.41	38.11	26.53	20.92	15.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	52.67	59.82	42.60	39.35	45.01
3.	Assam	52.67	59.82	42.60	39.35	45.01
4.	Bihar	62.99	63.25	64.37	52.63	58.21
5.	Goa	46.85	37.64	14.81	17.64	5.34
6.	Gujarat	46.35	41.76	29.80	28.67	22.18
7.	Haryana	34.23	27.73	20.56	16.22	28.02
8.	Himachal Pradesh	27.42	33.49	17.00	16.28	30.34
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	45.51	42.86	26.04	25.70	30.34
10.	Karnataka	55.14	48.18	36.33	32.82	29.88
11.	Kerala	59.19	51.48	39.03	29.10	25.76
12.	Madhya Pradesh	62.66	'62.52	48.90	41.92	40.64
13.	Maharashtra	57.71	63.97	45.23	40.78	37.93
14.	Manipur	52.67	59.82	42.60	39.35	45.01
15.	Meghalaya	52.67	59.82	42.60	39.35	45.01
16.	Mizoram	52.07	59.02	42.60'	30.36	45.01
17.	Nagaland	52.67	59.82	42.60	39.35	46.01
18.	Orissa	67.28	72.38	67.53	57.64	49.72
19.	Punjab	28.21	16.37	13.20	12.60	11.95
20.	Rajasthan	44.76	35.89	33.50	33.21	26.46
21.	Sikkim	52.67	59.82	42.60	39.35	45.01
22.	Tamil Nadu	57.43	57.68	53.99	45.80	32.48
23.	Tripura	52.67	59.82	42.60	39.35	45.01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	56.53	47.60	46.45	. 41.10	42.28
25.	West Bengal	73.16	68.34	63.05	48.30	40.80
26.	A&N Islands	57.43	57.68	53.99	1.29	32.48
27.	Chandigarh	27.96	27.32	23.79	45.80	11.35
28.	Dadra & Nagar Heveli	46.85	37.64	14.81	14.67	51.95
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	6.34
30.	Delhi	24.44	< 30.19	7.66	67.11	1.90
31.	Lakshadweep	59.19	51.48	39.03	29.10	25.76
32.	Pondicherry	57.43	57.68	53.99	45.80	32.48
	All India:	56.44	53.07	45.65	39.09	37.27

Source: India Rural Development Report, 1999.

Statement—II

Number of people below poverty line

S. No.	Year	No. of poor people (Million)
1.	1974	328.94
2.	1983-84	327.00
3.	1987-88	312.80
4.	1993	320.30

Source: Experts Group, Planning Commission, 1993.

Acute Shortage of drinking water in Gujarat

3508. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of drinking water in Gujarat State particularly in Kutch, Banaskantha and Jamnagar districts of the State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Kutch and Bar askantha are drought prone , border districts and after 51 years of independence there were 32 years of drought and scarcity;

(c) whether it is true that there were riots for drinking water in Jamnagar district; and

(d) what steps Central Government propose to take in this regard particularly in the aforesaid three districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the information furnished by the State Government, there was agitation for drinking water in the village Falla of Jamnagar district.

(d) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. The State Governments implement the programme under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government only supplements the efforts of the States by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers have been delegated to the States to plan, sanction and implement their own individual rural water supply schemes.